

## Filner Congratulates Brawley Student Headed To Air Force Academy



**Rep. Bob Filner (D-Chula Vista) stands next to Air Force Academy appointee Donald Lee Wharton IV. Wharton, joined by mom Suzy (left) and father Donald III (right), was the quarterback for the 2010 IVL Champion Brawley Wildcats. Chris Ferguson Photo.**

By Chris Ferguson

On Monday, June 6, Congressman Bob Filner (D-Chula Vista) congratulated Brawley Union High School student Donald Lee Wharton IV on his appointment to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"It is truly an honor to congratulate Donald on his appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy!" said Congressman Filner in a press statement. "Only the most

dedicated young adults are accepted into the academies and it was an honor to nominate Donald."

Wharton, the quarterback on the 2010 IVL champion Brawley Wildcats team, was announced as an appointee to the academy at last week's BUHS Senior Awards Night.

"I'm really excited," said Wharton during the meeting with Filner.

Wharton was accompanied by his mother, Suzy, and his father, Donald III.

Wharton is one of approximately 1,300 students accepted into US Military Academies this year. This was part of a pool of 12,000 students nominated.

Every student that wishes to attend a military academy must be nominated by their local congressman.

Wharton's entire tuition at the Air Force Academy will be free to his family. Wharton will receive free boarding and meals along with a stipend.

Upon graduation, Wharton will have a rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and a Bachelor of Sciences degree.

Wharton is also hoping to play for the Air Force Football team as a walk-on freshman once classes start.